# Overview of State Rail Safety Oversight Program

Presented to
Intermodal Committee
April 17, 2013

**Presented by**Carol Comer, Director
Division of Intermodal





# Overview

- Federal State Safety Oversight (SSO) Requirement
- SSO Program Structure
- Department's Role as SSO Agency
- Program Standard
- SSO Program Areas
- Current SSO Program Activities
- Requirements under MAP-21

# Federal Requirement

- 49 CFR Part 659 Rail Fixed Guideway Systems; State Safety Oversight
- Applies only to Rail Fixed Guideway Systems, not subject to FRA guidelines
  - MARTA & Atlanta Streetcar once operational
- Requires State to designate a State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA)
  - OCGA 32-9-10 designates GDOT as SSOA



#### **SSO Program Structure**







City of Atlanta

#### GDOT's Role as SSOA

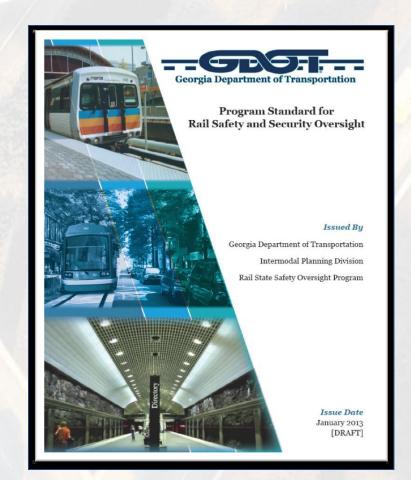
- Establish standard for review of rail safety and security practices and procedures used by rail transit agencies
- Oversee the implementation of these practices and procedures to ensure compliance with 49 CFR Part 659





# **GDOTs Program Standard**

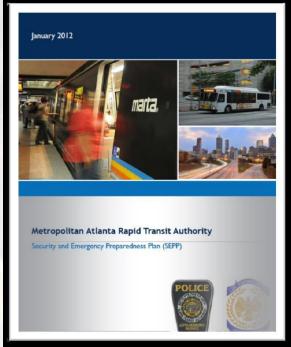
- Provides review standards, objectives, procedures and responsibilities to assist rail transit agencies with compliance to rail safety and security oversight program
- Program Success = Partnership & on-going communication between the Department and the affected rail transit agencies (MARTA and City of Atlanta)



#### **SSO Program Areas**

- Program Standard
- System Safety Program Plan (SSPP)
- Security & Emergency Preparedness Plan (SEPP)
- Internal Safety and Security Audit Program
- Hazard Management Process
- Accident Notification, Investigation and Reporting
- Three-Year On-Site Safety and Security Reviews
- Corrective Action Plans
- FTA Annual Reporting







## **Current SSO Program Activities**

- Triennial update of GDOT Program Standard underway
- Reviewing MARTA system safety, security, and emergency preparedness plans
- Monitoring MARTAs implementation of SEPP and SSPP plans
- Preparing May 15<sup>th</sup> FTA Annual Report
- Reviewing City of Atlanta Streetcar Project SSPP
- Preparing for GDOT 3-year On-Site Safety Review of MARTA
- Tracking MAP-21 implementation guidelines



## **MAP-21 SSO Considerations**

- Signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012
- Expands FTA framework to oversee safety of heavy rail, light rail, buses, ferries, and streetcars
- Will be implemented in consultation with the transit community
- Provides funding for states' SSO programs
- State cannot receive funding from rail transit systems
- Requires sufficient SSO program staff & training certifications
- Requires Asset Management Plans for all Transit agencies

# Questions?